(ख) सरकार इस संबंध में क्या परिवर्तन करने का विचार रखती है; और

(ग) सबसे छोटे उद्योगों को कौन-कौन सी सुविधाएं/रियायतें दिये जाने की संभावना है ?

उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एम. अरूणाचलम) : (क) और (ख) लघु उद्योगों के लिए नीति, उदारीकरण की प्रक्रिया सहित समग्र औद्योगिक तथा आर्थिक नीतियों पर विचार करने के बाद अगस्त, 1991 में बनाई गई थी। इसलिए इस समय लघु उद्योगों के लिए औद्योगिक नीति में संशोधन करने का कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है।

(ग) अति लघु क्षेत्र की सहायता के लिए एक पृथक पैकेज तैयार किया जा रहा है।

Production of hand made paper

3168. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA:

SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL: alias MEEM AFZAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the production of hand made paper is socially desirable because it is environment friendly, more labour intensive, less capital intensive and does not lead to depletion of natural resources; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government for promotion of the hand made paper industry and what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Yes, Sir. In the production of Handmade paper non-woody raw-materials such as cotton rags, tailor cuttings, trimming of handmade paper, agricultural residues are used. This is a labour intensive industry mostly established in rural areas.

(b) Steps have been taken for promotion of handmade paper industry as mentioned below:—

(1) Technical know-how has been provided.

(2) Excise and Sales Tax exemptions have been granted

(3) Government Departments have been requested to make purchases from KVI Units for their requirements of file covers made of handmade paper.

(4) KVIC has launched a project at Sanganer, Rajasthan, with the assistance of UNDP to produce high grade paper and export quality paper. Market surveys on HMP in USA and Canada have been done.

Amount of foreign investment

3169. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) which sectors had uppermost in foreign investment and which foreign countries are the biggest investors in India; and

(b) which States are leading in inviting foreign investment and in which sectors alongwith their percentage to the total foreign investment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) Sectors such as Hydro-carbons, power, Metallurgical Industries, Electronics and Electric Equipments, Chemicals, Engineering industries etc. are the uppermost in attracting foreign direct investment, during the post-policy period. The name of top ten countries in the list of foreign direct investment approved during the post-policy period are USA Switzerland, Japan, UK, Oman, Netherlands, UAE, Thailand, Germany and Mexico.

(b) No centralised data are maintained in this regard in the Ministry.